

What is claimed is:

1. A picture recording apparatus for  
compression-encoding a moving picture sequence and  
recording the resultant data to a record medium,  
5 comprising:

encoding means for compression-encoding an  
input moving picture sequence;

recording means for recording the  
compression-encoded data generated by said encoding  
10 means to a record medium; and

picture generating means for extracting a  
plurality of pictures from the input moving picture  
sequence at irregular intervals and generating reduced  
pictures with the extracted pictures while the  
15 compression-encoded data being recorded to the record  
medium.

2. The picture recording apparatus as set forth  
in claim 1, further comprising:

photographing means for inputting a  
20 photographed moving picture sequence.

3. The picture recording apparatus as set forth  
in claim 1,

wherein when a compressing process and a  
recording process of the input moving picture sequence  
25 are completed, the reduced pictures are compression-  
encoded.

4. The picture recording apparatus as set forth

in claim 1,

wherein while the compression-encoded data is being recorded to the record medium, the reduced pictures are generated and the generated reduced pictures are compressed.

5. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 3 or 4,

wherein the compression-encoded data of the reduced pictures is recorded to the record medium or another record medium.

6. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 3 or 4,

wherein the compression-encoded data of the reduced pictures are transmitted using a communication medium.

7. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

wherein while the compression-encoded data is being recorded to the record medium, the reduced pictures are generated, compressed, and recorded to the record medium or transmitted.

8. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said picture generating means extracts a plurality of pictures from the moving picture sequence at irregular intervals starting from the first picture when the moving picture sequence is

compressed and recorded.

9. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said picture generating means detects a change of the input moving picture sequence and extract one picture at each change point of the input moving picture sequence while the moving picture sequence is being compressed and recorded.

10. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 9,

wherein as an index for detecting a change of the input moving picture sequence, the size of a block difference value corresponding to a detected moving vector is used.

11. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 10,

wherein said picture generating means generates reduced pictures with the extracted pictures starting from the first frame at constant intervals of the input moving picture sequence.

12. The picture recording apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said encoding means has a memory for storing the input moving picture sequence to be compression-encoded,

wherein the memory has a memory area in which the reduced pictures are processed,

wherein the reduced pictures are stored in  
the memory area, and

wherein after the input moving picture  
sequence is completely compressed and recorded, the  
5 reduced pictures that are read from the memory area are  
compression-encoded and the compression-encoded data is  
recorded or transmitted.

13. The picture recording apparatus as set forth  
in claim 1,

10 wherein said encoding means has a memory for  
storing the input moving picture sequence to be  
compression-encoded,

wherein the memory has a memory area in which  
the reduced pictures are processed,

15 wherein compression-encoded data of the  
generated reduced pictures is stored in the memory  
area, and

wherein after the input moving picture  
sequence is completely compressed and recorded, the  
20 compression-encoded of the reduced pictures that are  
read from the memory area is recorded or transmitted.

14. A picture recording method for compression-  
encoding a moving picture sequence and recording the  
resultant data to a record medium, comprising the steps  
25 of:

(a) compression-encoding an input moving  
picture sequence;

(b) recording the compression-encoded data generated at step (a) to a record medium; and

(c) extracting a plurality of pictures from the input moving picture sequence at irregular intervals and generating reduced pictures with the extracted pictures while the compression-encoded data being recorded to the record medium.

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